

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1526

To direct the Secretary of Energy to develop standards for general service lamps that will operate more efficiently and assist in reducing costs to consumers, business concerns, government entities, and other users, to require that general service lamps and related products manufactured or sold in interstate commerce after 2013 meet those standards, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 24, 2007

Mr. STEVENS (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. CARPER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Ms. LANDRIEU) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Energy to develop standards for general service lamps that will operate more efficiently and assist in reducing costs to consumers, business concerns, government entities, and other users, to require that general service lamps and related products manufactured or sold in interstate commerce after 2013 meet those standards, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Bright Idea Act of
3 2007”.

4 **SEC. 2. TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR GENERAL SERVICE**
5 **LAMPS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—

7 (1) ESTABLISHMENT OF STANDARDS.—As soon
8 as practicable after the date of enactment of this
9 Act, the Secretary of Energy shall initiate a project
10 to establish technical standards for general service
11 lamps.

12 (2) CONSULTATION WITH INTERESTED PAR-
13 TIES.—In carrying out the project, the Secretary
14 shall consult with representatives of environmental
15 organizations, labor organizations, general service
16 lamp manufacturers, consumer organizations, and
17 other interested parties.

18 (3) MINIMUM INITIAL STANDARDS; DEAD-
19 LINE.—The initial technical standards established
20 shall be standards that enable those general service
21 lamps to provide levels of illumination equivalent to
22 the levels of illumination provided by general service
23 lamps generally available in 2007, but with—

24 (A) a lumens per watt rating of not less
25 than 30 by calendar year 2013; and

1 (B) a lumens per watt rating of not less
2 than 45 by calendar year 2018.

3 (b) MANUFACTURE AND DISTRIBUTION IN INTER-
4 STATE COMMERCE.—If the Secretary of Energy, after
5 consultation with the interested parties described in sub-
6 section (a)(2), determines that general service lamps meet-
7 ing the standards established under subsection (a) are
8 generally available for purchase throughout the United
9 States at costs that are substantially equivalent (taking
10 into account useful life, lifecycle costs, domestic manufac-
11 turing capabilities, energy consumption, and such other
12 factors as the Secretary deems appropriate) to the cost
13 of the general service lamps they would replace, then the
14 Secretary shall take such action as may be necessary to
15 require that at least 95 percent of general service lamps
16 sold, offered for sale, or otherwise made available in the
17 United States meet the standards established under sub-
18 section (a), except for those general service lamps de-
19 scribed in subsection (c).

20 (c) EXCEPTION.—The standards established by the
21 Secretary under subsection (a) shall not apply to general
22 service lamps used in applications in which compliance
23 with those standards is not feasible, as determined by the
24 Secretary.

1 (d) REVISED STANDARDS.—After the initial stand-
2 ards are established under subsection (a), the Secretary
3 shall consult periodically with the interested parties de-
4 scribed in subsection (a)(2) with respect to whether those
5 standards should be changed. The Secretary may change
6 the standards, and the dates and percentage of lamps to
7 which the changed standards apply under subsection (b),
8 if after such consultation the Secretary determines that
9 such changes are appropriate.

10 (e) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit reports pe-
11 riodically to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,
12 and Technology, the Senate Committee on Energy and
13 Natural Resources, and the House of Representatives
14 Committee on Energy and Commerce with respect to the
15 development and promulgation of standards for lamps and
16 lamp-related technology, such as switches, dimmers, bal-
17 last, and non-general service lighting, that includes the
18 Secretary's findings and recommendations with respect to
19 such standards.

20 **SEC. 3. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy may
22 carry out a lighting technology research and development
23 program—

24 (1) to support the research, development, dem-
25 onstration, and commercial application of lamps and

1 related technologies sold, offered for sale, or other-
2 wise made available in the United States; and

3 (2) to assist manufacturers of general service
4 lamps in the manufacturing of general service lamps
5 that, at a minimum, achieve the lumens per watt
6 ratings described in section 2(a).

7 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
8 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
9 \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2013.

10 (c) SUNSET.—The program under this section shall
11 terminate on September 30, 2015.

12 **SEC. 4. CONSUMER EDUCATION PROGRAM.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy, in con-
14 sultation with the Commissioner of the Federal Trade
15 Commission, shall carry out a comprehensive national pro-
16 gram to educate consumers about the benefits of using
17 light bulbs that have improved efficiency ratings.

18 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
19 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
20 \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2014.

21 **SEC. 5. REPORT ON MERCURY USE AND RELEASE.**

22 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
23 of this Act, the Secretary of Energy, in cooperation with
24 the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agen-
25 cy, shall submit to Congress a report describing rec-

1 ommendations relating to the means by which the Federal
2 Government may reduce or prevent the release of mercury
3 during the manufacture, transportation, storage, or dis-
4 posal of light bulbs.

5 **SEC. 6. REPORT ON LAMP LABELING.**

6 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
7 of this Act, the Commissioner of the Federal Trade Com-
8 mission, in cooperation with the Administrator of the En-
9 vironmental Protection Agency and the Secretary of En-
10 ergy, shall submit to Congress a report describing current
11 lamp labeling practices by lamp manufacturers and rec-
12 ommendations for a national labeling standard.

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